Broad policy on National Security

†798. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a broad policy on National Security; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Government has reconstituted the National Security Council (NSC) on June 25, 2004. The newly constituted NSC is chaired by the Prime Minister with the Ministers of Home Affairs, Defence, External Affairs and Finance as members. The Government also reconstituted the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) comprising eminent experts on national security from outside the Government.

The NSAB together with the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) examine national security issues and propose policy guidelines to the National Security Advisor and the NSC.

Border fencing along LoC

799. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after fencing of a 700 kilometres stretch of the LoC, the army has undertaken the work of erecting another fence along the Zero Line to act as first line of defence against infiltration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of money earmarked for the purpose and the targets set for completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There is no proposal under consideration for construction of another fence along the Line of Control (LoC).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial support by public sector undertakings

800. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a Public Sector Undertaking had sought financial support from the Government to implement four vital projects costing Rs. 675 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the timely clearance is required from the Government to extend the export proposals received by the Public Sector Undertakings producing defence related equipments; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to clear the export related proposals on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has sought financial support from the Planning Commission to implement four projects costing Rs. 655 crore.

These projects are:

(i) Establishment of Micro & Nano Technology based Design, Fabrication & Testing facilities at BEL, Bangalore.

(ii) Establishment of facility for multijunction Gallium Arsenide based Solar Cells at BEL, Bangalore.

(iii) Establishment of facilities with Transfer of Technology for manufacture of Infra-Red(IR) Detectors & Detector Dewar Cooler Assembly for Thermal Imaging Equipment at BEL, Bangalore.

(iv) Upgradation of technology at BEL Optronic Limited, Pune, to manufacture Super Gen Image Intensifier Tubes and Micro Channel Plate for Night Vision Equipment.

(c) and (d) For certain military stores listed by Directorate General of Foreign Trade, as revised from time to time, no clearance is required. Prior clearance for export is required for Military Stores, which are of strategic importance for our defence forces.

Permission to services personnel to appear in civil services examinations

801. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that personnel of other ranks of Air Force and other services are not permitted to appear in Civil Services Examinations etc., now;